TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 877 - SB 1096

March 30, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits the court from ordering one parent to pay child support to another parent when both parents are awarded equal parenting time with the child or children pursuant to an order of joint custody.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue – Not Significant
Increase State Expenditures - \$11,200/One-Time

Increase Local Revenue – Not Significant
Increase Local Expenditures – Not Significant

Other Fiscal Impact – The Department of Human Services could be in jeopardy of losing federal funds in the amount of \$4,260,000 in FY09-10 if the provisions of the bill result in noncompliance with federal law. The amount of federal funds lost will gradually increase each year the state continues to be noncompliant.

Assumptions:

- The Department of Human Services (DHS) will incur a one-time increase in expenditures for programming changes to the Child Support Income Share Worksheet and Web Calculator. DHS will contract for such services which are estimated at \$11,200 for 170 hours of analysis, design, coding, and testing of the program.
- According to the Department of Human Services (DHS), 45 C.F.R. § 264.30 requires custodial parents receiving assistance to pursue child support from the non-custodial parent. Referred individuals must cooperate in establishing paternity and in establishing, modifying, or enforcing a child support order with respect to the child. Failure to cooperate could result in the state being assessed penalties against the state's block grant for the Families First program of approximately \$4,260,000 in the first year (two percent of the \$213,000,000 block grant).

• A small increase in cases in the court system, which will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenue from fees, taxes and costs collected. These expenditures and revenue are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director

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